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SUNDAY
FEBRUARY 28, 1954

Blankenhorn came to see me at the house this morning. He will at once communicate my views in full to Adenauer and recommend an answer by him to Bidault suggesting a meeting of the two on Friday or Saturday of this week. I gave him the time schedule and advised him of the sharp divisions in France on the date of the debate. Unfortunately, Laniel is still, I think unrealistically, trying to preserve his majority and at the same time not lose Socialist support for EDC. This is ~~very~~ dangerous, since his majority is founded not on principle but on expediency.

Between Blankenhorn, the coming and going of people from the office with telegrams, and a long conversation at home with Schoenbrun, I never left the house today, which made the boys excessively miserable. They seem to realize that Sunday ordinarily means a walk for them. If there is a week-day holiday, they pay no attention to it.

Schoenbrun, who has a ~~very~~ wide acquaintance amongst French politicians, expressed himself as ~~being~~ dubious to the point of disbelief in Laniel's intentions to push for a vote on EDC. He believes Laniel more interested in remaining in office on any terms than in trying to pick up this hedgehog. David is busily engaged in writing the book he has been commissioned to do on France.

I had a message to call Stuart Symington, who is lunching with Al Gruenther. He has been trying to reach me both here and in Rome but I ~~was~~ missed him in both places. He and Senator Bridges are going to London this afternoon, then to Madrid, returning to Paris Thursday evening and leaving for home Friday night. He wants me to meet them Friday in Paris, which I shall do.

DEPARTMENT OF STATE A/CDC/MR

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For XDS ☐ EXT. DATE

TS AUTH. REASON(S)

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